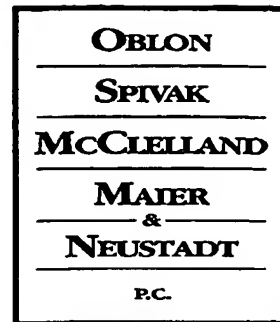




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Docket No.: 219491US3

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/073,910
Applicants: Yoshinobu TAKANO
Filing Date: February 14, 2002
For: METHOD FOR COUPLING PLASTIC OPTICAL
FIBERS
Group Art Unit: 2883
Examiner: HEALY, BRIAN

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Joseph Scatetta Jr.

Gregory J. Maier

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Joseph Scatetta, Jr.

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Philip J. Hoffmann

Registration No. 46,340

Customer Number

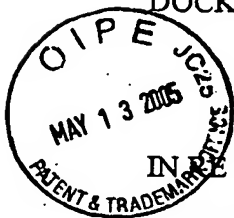
22850

(703) 413-3000 (phone)
(703) 413-2220 (fax)

*Comments
noted for
the record
BMT
5/23/05*

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DOCKET NO: 219491US3



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

YOSHINOBU TAKANO

SERIAL NO: 10/073,910

FILED: FEBRUARY 14, 2002

FOR: METHOD FOR COUPLING
PLASTIC OPTICAL FIBERS

:

: EXAMINER: HEALY, BRIAN

:

: GROUP ART UNIT: 2883

:

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

The Statement of Reasons for Allowance included at page 2 of the Office Action dated November 29, 2004, characterizes the invention in terms of "plastic optical fibers." Although these features are disclosed in Claims 21 and 22, these features are not disclosed in independent Claim 23.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that this portion of the Statement of Reasons for Allowance is understood not to apply to independent Claim 23. Notwithstanding this assertion, Applicants respectfully assert that independent Claim 23 is understood to be

*Comments
noted
for record
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5/23/05*

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Application No. 10/073,910

Reply to Notice of Allowance of March 18, 2005

allowable for reasons including the recitation of a material having thermal expansion properties similar to a fiber.

Customer Number

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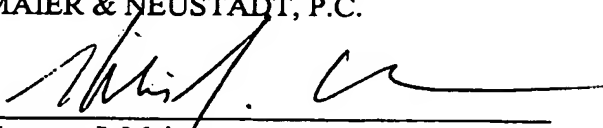
Tel: (703) 413-3000

Fax: (703) 413 -2220

(OSMMN 06/04)

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Registration No. 25,599
Attorney of Record

Philip J. Hoffmann
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GJM/PH/me

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